I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450 on:

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Dale of Deposit

Jonathan M. Blanchard, Ph.D.

Name

Signature

Our File No. ILL02-023-DIV-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Chang Liu, et al.

Serial No. 10/670,585

Filing Date: September 25, 2003

Examiner James J. Leybourne

Group Art Unit No. 2881

For

SCANNING PROBE MICROSCOPY PROBE AND METHOD FOR SCANNING PROBE CONTACT

PRINTING

PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (37 CFR § 1.136(a))

M.S. - Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a petition for an extension of the time to respond to the Office Action dated June 18, 2004 for a period of three months.

Please charge the \$510.00 fee to our American Express card. A Credit Card Payment Form is attached. A duplicate copy of this Petition is attached.

12/21/2004 LWONDIM1 00000015 10670585

03 FC:2253

510.00 OP

Jonathan M. Blanchard, Ph.D.,

Registration No. 48,927

Respectfully submitted.

Evan Law Group LLC 566 West Adams Suite 350 Chicago, Illinois 60661 (312) 876-1400